

REMARKS

Restriction was required to either the Group I claims 2, 4 and 5, the Group II claims 3 and 6, the Group III claims 7 and 9 (i.e. the part of claim 9 that depends on claim 7) or the Group IV claims 7 and 8 (8 and the part of 9 that depends on claim 8?).

Applicants elect to continue prosecution with the Group III claims 7 and the part of 9 that depends on claim 7.

Since this application is not a U.S. National Stage application of a PCT International application, this election is made without traversal.

The following considerations are relevant to the election and further prosecution.

The Group IV claims, according to the Office Action, claim a method of treatment with estradiol. The Office Action lists claims 7 and 8 as Group IV claims. However study of the simultaneous amendment suggests that the Group IV claims are claims 8 and the part of claim 9 that depends on claim 8. This opinion should be confirmed.

Second, the Office Action states that the Group III claims are for a "method for testing for treatment neurodegeneration". Claim 7 does not claim e.g. a diagnostic method. The Group III claims are for a method of testing a group of test substances to find one or more ligands, which are effective in the treatment of neurodegeneration in cerebral cortex. In other words it is a method of testing

compounds to see whether or not they are effective in treating neurodegeneration of cerebral cortex.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawing be further amended or corrected in formal respects to put this case in condition for final allowance, then it is requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing the case to allowance, he or she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 1-631-549 4700.

In view of the foregoing, favorable allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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